



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

May 18, 2009

To: Local Superintendents of Schools
Non-Profit Community Based Organizations
Institutions of Higher Education
Private Non-Profit Organizations

We are pleased to announce the availability of funds for the 2009-2010 William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy grants to be awarded by the Maryland State Department of Education. We anticipate that approximately \$800,000 in federal funds will be available for new Even Start programs. The minimum amount of federal funds required for a subgrant is \$75,000 for first year grants and \$52,500 for subgrantees in ninth and succeeding years. These funds will be awarded on a competitive basis.

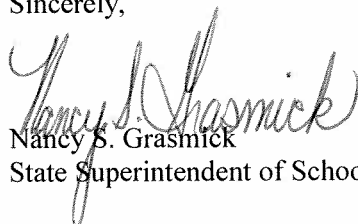
The purpose of Even Start is to develop projects that provide high quality, intensive family literacy services that involve parents and children, from birth through age seven, in a cooperative effort to help parents become full partners in the education of their children, and to assist children in reaching their full potential as learners. An Even Start project's funding is comprised of a federal portion of funds and a local match share contributed by the project. The local match may be provided in cash or in-kind, and may be obtained from any funding source, including Title I, Part A and other funds under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Even Start grants are only awarded contingent upon available federal funding and may be awarded for up to four years if the recipient is making sufficient progress toward meeting the State's Performance Indicators and program goals and objectives.

Enclosed is a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) with instructions for completing the application for the Even Start Family Literacy Program, School Year 2009-2010. **An original and four copies of the proposal must be received by July 27, 2009.**

A technical assistance orientation of the RFP application for the 2009-2010 Even Start Program is scheduled for June 10, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Johns Hopkins Columbia Center. **Please return the response form by June 3, 2009 if you plan to attend.**

Should you have questions concerning the RFP process or the Even Start program, please contact Ms. Valerie Ashton-Thomas, Coordinator, Even Start Family Literacy at (410) 767-0314 or vashton-thomas@msde.state.md.us.

Sincerely,


Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

Enclosures
NSG:VAT:ya

Maryland State Department of Education
Even Start Family Literacy

Request For Proposal Orientation
John Hopkins Columbia Center
6740 Alexander Bell Drive Suite 200
Columbia, MD 21046

June 3, 2009

RESPONSE FORM

Name:

Title:

Local School System/Organization:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Total Number Attending from your LSS/Organization:

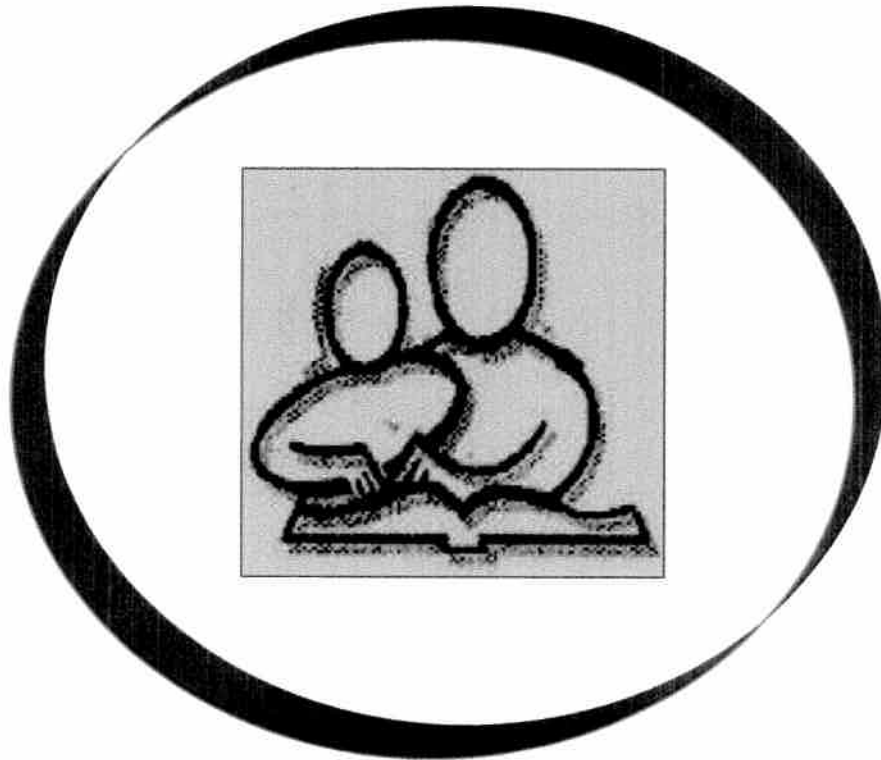
Please return this form by June 3, 2009:

Yolanda Adger
Maryland State Department of Education
Program Improvement and Family Support Branch
200 W. Baltimore Street, 4th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595

Tel: (410) 767-8103
Fax: (410) 333-8010
Email: yadger@msde.state.md.us

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ORIENTATION**



WHEN: June 10, 2009
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

WHERE: JOHN HOPKINS COLUMBIA CENTER
6740 ALEXANDER BELL DRIVE
SUITE 200
COLUMBIA, MD 21046

REGISTRATION: Contact Yolanda Adger at (410) 767-8103 or email at yadger@msde.state.md.us, or complete the enclosed registration form by June 3, 2009.